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"Central Registry" is. Still all kinds of women are employed under the name of "trained nurse," such as graduates of a nurses correspondence school, women who have had a few months' experience in a private sanitarium, and sometimes only in a doctor's office. Those women are employed at full pay, and in cases of serious illness, and the families are made to believe that their loved ones are in the best care of a competent fully-trained nurse.

I do not think that any law would alter those conditions, doubtless the law would be a dead one, but I feel absolutely sure that we ourselves could check those outrages in a comparatively short time by explaining the meaning of the R. N. to the public. In many cases we do not get a chance to discuss this important theme, but if every "registered nurse," when on duty, would wear a pin or a badge with the R. N. (and the number of her registration diploma, which could be very small or engraved on the back), the public's attention would be roused and we would get a better opportunity to make the people acquainted with the R. N. Very soon the families would understand that the registered nurse, who has sacrificed three long years of earnest study and hard work to prepare herself for her responsible duties, can give better care to their sick than the previously mentioned women, who are frequently and recklessly put in the place of a competent registered nurse. All that is necessary is to get the public used to look for the R. N. badge or pin and no longer will they pay the price of the real thing for a poor substitute.

Naturally those conditions are of no personal interest to nurses who are graduates of large training schools and have a well-established registry. Just the same, a number of them, who are unselfish women with a strong feeling for justice, have helped to bring about an action to improve the conditions by establishing the "Central Registry," which can only become a success after the R. N. has taken its place before the public.

The R. N. badge or pin could be protected against misuse in the same manner as a trade mark.

P. D. N.

[*An Excellent Suggestion.*—Reforms to be lasting must be worked out slowly. State Registration is in its infancy—the constructive period. Each nurse who supports a Central Registry rather than a commercial one helps to solve this problem. ED.]

MISLEADING ADVERTISEMENTS

DEAR EDITOR: The newspapers of the smaller towns throughout the country are frequently solicited to insert reading advertisements for the Philadelphia School for Nurses, located at 2219 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, and as it poses as a beneficent and charitable institution these advertisements are inserted free of charge.

The visitor of the Pennsylvania State Board of Charities in a report states: "Nothing to be seen worth reporting. No indication of lessons or instruction. Your visitor cannot commend this institution": and in a letter says: "This last, places this institution under the head of those we condemn absolutely in our printed report."

It is advisable that the public should know that the young women who enter this school as pupils are sent out after having had the most meagre instruction from incompetent instructors, to nurse in private families for money, eighty per cent. of which is returned to the school treasury. They receive no bedside instruction nor are they under the direction of skilled and competent teachers.

The Chief of the Bureau of Health, in his report to the Director of Health and Charities of the City of Philadelphia, says: "I feel that it is an imposition on the public to allow this class of nurses to practice their profession, as the following circumstances connected with these cases of typhoid fever prove conclusively to my mind that these nurses are not properly trained to be intrusted with the noble work of nursing the sick."

The graduates of this school are not accepted by the American National Red Cross Society, nor the Nursing corps of the Army and Navy; they are not admitted to the Directory for Nurses connected with the College of Physicians, Philadelphia, nor are they recognized by the Pennsylvania State Board of Examiners for Registration of Nurses.

I have given you this information for the reason that poor and ambitious young women, attracted by the advantages set forth in the free advertisements inserted in the newspapers all over the country, with great effort travel long distances to attend this school, in the hope of becoming trained nurses, only to find after entering that they are giving their time and work to an institution which does not educate and equip them for the profession of nursing.

In the interest of these young women of your locality I would ask that you give this statement as much publicity as possible.

WILLIAM S. HIGBEE, M.D.

President of the Pennsylvania State Board of Examiners for Registration of Nurses.

Philadelphia, Penna.